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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AN: 0730051-0830

PAGE 01 KABUL 05305 191356Z

48
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PH-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 OMB-01

TRSE-00 SF-10 OFR-02 AID-20 PC-15 IO-13 OC-06 CCG-00

RSR-01 M-03 A-01 EF-11 /174 W
128424

O R 191250Z JUL 79
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4263
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BOMB 345
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCPAC POLAD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____
() APPROVED () DISAPPROVED
() RECOMMENDED () NOT RECOMMENDED
() OTHER () OTHER
() DOWNGRADED TO () C. OADR
() C. OADR

CONFIDENTIAL: AL KABUL 5305

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHAN COUP; SITREP 7 - 1700 HOURS, JULY, 19

REF: A) KABUL 528214B) KABUL 525817C) KABUL 526917D) KABUL 5276 (NOTAL)

1. SITUATION IN KABUL CONTINUES TO BE CALM. AFTERNOON DEPLOYMENTS MILITARY PERSONNEL APPEAR TO HAVE INCREASED, POSSIBLY IN REACTION TO RUMORS THAT KING MAY ATTEMPT TO RETURN (REFTEL A). SOME INDEFINITE INCREASE IN TENSION IN POPULACE OBSERVABLE.

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2. ARMY TROOPS ARE POSTED AT ONLY US AND GERMAN EMBASSIES (FRENCH EMBASSY ALSO PROTECTED BY ROAD BLOCK SINCE EMBASSY ADJACENT TO DAUD'S RESIDENCE). NO TROOPS POSTED AT USSR EMBASSY.

3. SITUATION IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES IS NEARLY BUSINESS AS USUAL WITH DEPUTY MINISTERS FUNCTIONING IN ALMOST ALL MINISTRIES. USAID COUNTERPARTS OF MIDDLE AND UPPER LEVEL FUNCTIONARIES REPORT AFGHANS DESIROUS MAINTAINING CONTACTS. SOME ARE SPEAKING ENTHUSIASTICALLY ABOUT NEW REGIME. NUMBER OF MINISTERS FORMER GOVERNMENT RELIABLY REPORTED NOW AT HOME AND NOT UNDER GUARD. (TOLD AID CONTRACT PAB ADVISOR THAT THERE ARE ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEMS IN PROVINCES AND ASKED THAT TRAINING TEAMS PLAN CONTINUE VISITS PROVINCES THEY WORKING IN. ANOTHER USAID SOURCE REPORTS THAT MILITARY GOVERNORS HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED FOR ALL PROVINCES ARE BEING HELICOPTERED TO PROVINCIAL CAPITALS.

(REPORT ALL QUIET IN TWO PROVINCES, THOUGH MILITARY CANTONMENTS PAKTIA REMAIN UNUSUALLY QUIET SUGGESTING TROOPS THERE MAY BE CONFINED TO QUARTERS.

4. RADIO AFGHANISTAN A.M. BROADCAST CONFIRMED USSR AND EASTERN EUROPEAN BLOC RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME (REFTEL D). GOVERNMENT DAILY ISLA-ANIS REPEATED GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE BROADCAST EVENING JULY 18 (REFTEL B), DESIGNATING MOHAMMAD DAUD AS PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC, PRIME MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT, DEFENSE MINISTER, AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. NO NEW RADIO OR PRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS, OTHER THAN REITERATION OF SUPPORT PASHTUN TRIBES, KABUL UNIVERSITY AND AFGHANS LIVING ABROAD, HAVE BEEN MADE.

5. IN MEETING OF [] WITH EMBASSY, [] ACKNOWLEDGED HE HAD NO CONFIRMATION BBC REPORT THAT ABDUL WALI WAS KILLED. (THIS REPORT CONTRADICTED BY SEVERAL OTHER GOOD SOURCES HERE. SEE REFTEL C.) HE ALSO REPEATED BBC REPORT (SO FAR UNCONFIRMED) THAT BHUTTO MET WITH KING ZAHIR IN ROME. [] UPPEAR CONVINCED AGAIN WITHOUT CONFIRMATION) THAT SOVIETS MUST HAVE KNOWN ABOUT COUP IN ADVANCE, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS THEY UNAWARE OF SPECIFIC TIMING.

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B/a 3

6. [] REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING NEW AFGHAN PASSPORTS AND THAT THEY WILL BE ISSUED SOON. HE ALSO SPECULATED THAT AIR SERVICE MAY BE RESUMED AS EARLY AS SATURDAY, JULY 21.

7. THERE IS REPORT THAT GOVERNMENT HAS ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO LEADERS ALL KABUL MOSQUES THAT FRIDAY MORNING PRAYERS MAY NOT RPT NOT INVOKE SUPPORT FOR DEPOSED KING, AND THAT NO MENTION BE MADE OF HIS NAME AS IS USUAL CUSTOM.
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EXCISED COPY FOLLOWS

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

1. Situation in Kabul continues to be calm. Afternoon deployments military personnel appear to have increased; possibly in reaction to rumors that King may attempt to return (reftel A). Some indefinable increase in tension in populous observable.

2. Army troops are posted at only US and German embassies (French Embassy also protected by road block since Embassy adjacent to Daud's residence). No troops posted at USSR.

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BX 1083 87

Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONTROL: 5308
JULY 19, 1973

THALES
COLLECT
1440000

EXCISE

CISTR 00000

ACTION: Secstate WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO: Ambassador ANKARA
ROME
ISLAMABAD - IMMEDIATE
LONDON
MOSCOW DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDS/ME
NEW DELHI
PARIS DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ROME - IMMEDIATE
TENTATIVE - IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC POLAD

DLH
COL-3
DOCM
PAO
PAO
AID/P
JMS
COMS
ELC

ENCL 5305

D.O. 11488: GDS
D.O. 11488: AY

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POL: Schifferdecker
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TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

3. Situation in government offices is nearly business as usual with Deputy Ministers functioning in almost all ministries. USAID counterparts of middle and upper level functionaries report Afghans desirous maintaining contacts. Some are speaking enthusiastically about new regime. Number of Ministers former government reliably reported now at home and not under guard. DepMinFin Khalikyar told AID contract PAS adviser that there are absolutely no problems in provinces and asked that training teams plan continue visits provinces they working in. Another USAID source reports that military governors have been designated for all provinces and are being helicoptered to provincial capitals. German Paktia development office, in radio contact with four stations Paktia and Kandahar, report all quiet in two provinces though military cantonments Paktia remain unusually quiet suggesting troops they may be confined to quarters.

4. Radio Afghanistan a.m. broadcast confirmed USSR and Eastern European bloc recognition of new regime (reftel D). Government daily Islah-Anis repeated government communique broadcast evening July 18 (reftel B). designating Mohammad Daud as president of republic, prime minister of government, defense minister, and minister of foreign affairs. No new support Pashtun tribes, Kabul University and Afghans living abroad have been made.

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TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

6. MFA source in visa section reports that government is preparing new Afghan passports and that they will be issued soon. He also speculated that air service may be resumed as early as Saturday, July 21.

7. There is report that government has issued instructions to leaders all Kabul Mosques that Friday Morning prayers may not rpt not invoke support for deposed King, and that no mention be made of his name as is usual custom.

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